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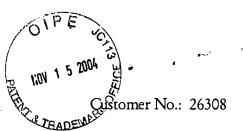
Bv.

Dated:

12 November 2004

Linda S. Wenzel

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IMORC

Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Bolduc

Docket No.: 9494.18398

Serial No.:

10/692,282

Examiner: Isabella, David J.

Filed:

23 October 2003

Group Art Unit: 3738

Title:

Catheter-Based Fastener Implantation Apparatus and Methods

PETITION FOR AN UNINTENTIONALLY DELAYED BENEFIT CLAIM PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.78(a)(3)

Mail Stop Petition Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant requests to amend the benefit claim under 35 U.S.C. §120 of the above-noted application, as follows in marked-up form:

This application elaims the benefit is a continuation-in-part of copending United States Patent Application Serial No. 10/307,226, filed November 29, 2002. This application is also a continuation-in-part claims the benefit of co-pending United States Patent Application Serial No. 10/271,334, filed October 15, 2002, which [.] This application also claims the benefit of co-pending United States Provisional Application Serial No. 60/333,937, filed 28 November 28, 2001.

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Applicant states that the entire delay between the date the claim was due under paragraph (a)(2)(ii) of 37 C.F.R. §1.78 and the date the claim was filed was unintentional.

Applicant hereby petitions for acceptance of the unintentionally delayed benefit claim. The requisite fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(t) is submitted herewith.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia A. Limbach

Registration No. 50,295

RYAN KROMHOLZ & MANION, S.C. Post Office Box 26618 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53226 (262) 783 - 1300 12 November 2004

Customer No.: 26308
APTLE/18398/041112 Petition Under 37 GFR 1.78(a)(3)